

McGraw Off on Long Trip to Sign Up Giant Holdouts

Miss Harris M. Goes for \$5,100 At Garden Sale

Tommy Murphy Buys Star Pacer From S. A. Fletcher, of Indianapolis

By J. S. Mitchell

The top price animal in the Fasig-Tipton midwinter horse auction at Madison Square Garden yesterday was Miss Harris M., the best free-for-all pacer mare now alive, and after a stiff bidding tussle she was knocked down to Tommy Murphy, of Poughkeepsie, for the sum of \$5,100.

Those who "salted" the mare for the Poughkeepsie follower of the Grand Circuit were Charley Welland, a local knight of the Speedway, and "Doc" Tenner, who was formerly manager of the C. K. G. Billings trotters, but, as Billings is out of the game, Tenner was said to be working for somebody else.

Miss Harris M. is by Peter the Great, now a six-year-old and has an open record of 2:00 for the mile and with a long string of important victories to her credit. Owned by Stoughton A. Fletcher, of Indianapolis, the pacer was sold because the owner has a lot of younger stock he wishes to develop.

Trotter Another Star

Another star of the sale was the trotter Truxton, a two-year-old record of 2:07 1/4 for the mile in competition, and is expected to be one of the foremost three-year-olds of this coming Grand Circuit season.

The colt was in the consignment of Walter R. Cox, but he is not the owner. Cox bought Truxton for the sum of \$1,600, and it was said that he might drive him in the half-mile big races which he holds a nomination. A minute after Cox made the purchase he whispered to a friend near the auction booth that he would not take \$1,600 for the colt. In the early part of last season Truxton developed a curb, but he was cured to such an extent that he reeled off the mile at Columbus in 2:07 1/4, and he caught the judge's eye at Atlanta in 2:08 1/4.

Seventy Youngsters Missing

A considerable damper was cast on the sale by the absence of seventy youngsters listed from the Walnut Hall Farm, of Lexington, Ky. It was stated that the consignment could not be brought here on time, as the government had commandeered all the horse boxes, and of course the private animals had to stand aside.

The best sales:

- Miss Harris M., pacer, by Peter the Great, \$5,100.
- Truxton, trotter, by Peter the Great, \$1,600.
- Star, trotter, by Peter the Great, \$1,600.
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No Piping Rock Races Will Be Held This Year

The Piping Rock Racing Association has decided to abandon racing for the present, or at least until the war is over. The move is a purely patriotic one, as three-fourths of the members who own horses and who were instrumental in booming the sport on the picturesque Locust Valley course are serving as commissioned officers either here or at the front. Action was taken on the proposition at a joint conference of the directors of racing and the board of governors of the club.

In order to keep alive the main events, the Maryland Jockey Club will give these races subject to their official conditions. It is understood that the Aspirant Plate, for two-year-olds, will be run at Pimlico some time between May 1 and 17.

The race is for horses owned by Piping Rock members, and the original nominations or such of those that can possibly be there, and from the informal to be rehearsed now the card will be pretty well set. All the members of the Piping Rock Racing Association who held nominations in the Aspirant Plate agreed to the transfer to the Pimlico track.

No set of men in America has done more to keep alive the real racing idea than the Piping Rock members. When the sport was in its heyday, over the repeal of the Percy-Gardner law, the Piping Rock men stepped into the breach and contributed a fund of \$50,000 to be given for cups and sweepstakes.

The Rockaway Hunting Club also has decided to give up its events until the war is over.

Wesleyan Aquatic Team Strengthened by 'Freshies'

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., Feb. 26.—The rule which restricts freshmen at Wesleyan from playing on varsity teams was lifted now, and the swimming team is able to take places on the team, which they could not have done last year.

The relay swimming team is composed wholly of freshmen, with the exception of Captain Bower, Herben and Woodruff, the former a New York City boy and the latter from Elizabeth, N. J., with Peck and Captain Bower making up the relay.

Twenty-two Prizes For Run

Entry blanks announcing the annual handicap open season of the Brooklyn Athletic Association on Easter Sunday were sent to the different clubs of the Metropolitan Association yesterday. A total of twenty-two prizes will be distributed, including a large one donated by Eddie Mayo, the junior metropolitan cross-country champion.

Yale Club Squash Team Surprises Tiger Rivals

Elis Capture Four of Seven Matches Played—Clapp Defeats Ellsworth

By A. C. Cavanaugh

The Yale Club squash tennis team furnished the greatest upset of the present season by defeating the Princeton club in a series of the Class B Metropolitan Association championship tourney on the Eli courts yesterday. The score was 4 matches to 3.

G. E. Harvey sided in bringing defeat to his Princeton chummates by failing to appear for his match. He defaulted to A. G. Blaisdell. Robert Monks, the gray-haired Tiger player, made a brave effort to save the day for his team, but bowed before F. M. Blodgett in the final match.

Star Players Defeated

H. R. Stixwell, Lieutenant Elliot Ellsworth, F. Himmann, Brad, Geoffrey Graham and A. D. Mittendorf, who comprised five of the seven-man Princeton team, were regarded as certain to win from Yale. The Princeton team, however, the improvement shown by E. J. Clapp, the onetime Yale hurdler, and J. C. Tomlinson, Jr., and the invincible playing of two other Eli men, the Princeton team was not so certain.

Clapp handled the first defeat to the Princeton "Big Five" by triumphing over Lieutenant Ellsworth. The score was 15-8, 13-10. Ellsworth found it exceedingly difficult to contend with the Yale man's fast play and was often caught out of position. Clapp also used a puzzling cross-court attack and succeeded in getting a number of "nicks" off the back wall.

Graham, a tried and experienced player, found his staying powers lacking in his match with Tomlinson, his Yale rival. The Princeton man was forced to expend much of his energy in the first game, which he won by 15-11, after one of the hardest extracted games of the season. Long rallies followed in succession as the men sent the ball spinning rapidly around the court.

Graham managed to play close on the heels of his younger rival during the early part of the second game, but then he began to weaken. Tomlinson never let up the sizzling pace and scored often by driving the ball into the net and low "kills" over the net.

Princeton Captain Wins

William Adams, the young Yale player, also made the road a hard one for his Princeton rival, H. R. Stixwell, the Princeton captain, by a score of 15-9, 17-15. Adams was slightly off his game in the opening tilt, but he made Maxwell fight bitterly for every ace in the second game. Stixwell's court covering stood him in good stead.

The other scheduled series between the Harvard Club and the Crescent Athletic Club was postponed to Friday afternoon at the request of the Crimson organization.

Amateurs and Pros To Meet at Tennis

The next big match on indoor lawn tennis courts will be played on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock, when Frederick B. Alexander and Dr. William Rosenbaum, national indoor champions, will play James Burns and Harry M. Neal, the professionals, at the Heights Casino, Montague Street, Brooklyn. The exhibition will be for the benefit of the Red Cross.

The match will be the best three out of five sets and will serve to demonstrate the comparative strength of the amateur brand of tennis as compared to the professional. Burns is the pro at the Rockaway Hunting Club, while McNeal occupies a similar position at the Casino.

Boxing News and Notes

By FRED HAWTHORNE

"Gee' morrin', Jess Willard; howdy! That Fulton boy was just here on the corner, waiting to see you, and he seemed mighty upish. Said as how he would take you right out before the whole class and punch you full of holes. And see that mark out there on the road? Well, Fred said he would be here in an hour and would dare you to step across it. He'll be back to tell you so himself."

"And say, Jess, you remember that Dempsey hit, don't you? That new fellow who just came to town? Well, he was around here, too, and he seemed awful mussy. Told as how he liked that Brooklyn boy on Monday, and said he could do the same thing to you. Looks like they are a picking on you, don't it, Jess?"

"While Freddy Fulton was talking about what he's gonna do to you, Jack came along, and, bust me, if the two of them didn't almost start a muss right here on Main Street. Fred said: 'I want that big stiff first; you can have him after I get through with him,' and Jack came right back at him this way: 'You keep out of my yard, Fred Fulton, 'I'll get that Truxton, too. I'll teach him to say I can't fight; why, I'll land him one on the nose the first time I bump into him.'"

That's about the way the heavy-weight situation looks to-day, and it seems as though Fulton's feat in practically knocking out Frank Moran at New Orleans on Monday overshadowed Dempsey's stunt in beating K. O. Bill Brennan at Milwaukee six rounds ago. According to ringwise reports, Fulton fought a great battle and proved once

Club Champion Squash Winner At Bay Ridge

James Doig, the club champion, defeated Harry E. McGowan in a squash tennis match of the team tourney at the Crescent Athletic Club yesterday by a score of 12-15, 15-8, 15-6. The victory of Doig, who is captain of Team No. 1, materially strengthened the hold his team has on first place.

Doig lost the first game to McGowan as a result of his inability to handle the smashing shots of his rival. He braced strongly thereafter and clearly displayed his superiority. His change of pace and placement shots bewildered McGowan, who also found trouble in intercepting his opponent's cross-court game.

Fifty Men Answer Call Of Baseball at Columbia

First call for candidates by Coach Andy Coakley of the Columbia baseball team resulted in the appearance of fifty men yesterday afternoon. Signing up for the position desired and a short review of plans for the season by Coakley completed the work of the gymnasium. The first official practice in the gymnasium will commence next Monday.

The Columbia team will have to be entirely rebuilt around the small number of veterans remaining from the 1916 nine and a few who played in the short season of last year. Bonunquoro and Hauck are the only men who played two years ago, while Ackerman, Koenig and Litt are left from last year's squad. Twelve candidates have turned out for the pitcher's berth, seven for catcher, thirteen for the outfield and twenty for infield positions.

Wanderers Will Try Again on Ice To-night

Another stirring battle on the ice will be seen to-night at the St. Nicholas rink, when the irresistible team of the Pittsburgh Athletic Association will play the local Wanderers in the second game of the series in this city. Should the Pirates of the ice defeat the Wanderers this evening it will mark their twentieth straight victory this season.

Wanted for the Army

A campaign has been launched by the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States to obtain fifty men to go to France and take charge of athletic work with the army there under the supervision of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. Dr. George J. F. Fisher, president of the council, requested the A. A. U. through Secretary Frederick W. Rubien, to aid him in securing these men, and President Charles A. Dean has named a committee of fourteen to solicit and receive applications.

Braves Buy Infielder

BOSTON, Feb. 26.—Infielder Richard Conway, of the Worcester Club of the Eastern League, leader of the league hitting and take charge of the Braves by the Boston National League baseball club. Conway plays shortstop and second base. His home is at St. Paul, Minn. He will join the Braves on their spring training trip at Miami, Fla., on March 15.

White Defeats Elmslie

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 26.—Charles White, of Brooklyn, defeated Alex Elmslie, of Milwaukee, 300 to 238 this afternoon, in the second match in the Class A national amateur billiard tournament here. With both men playing well, Elmslie's game went 42 innings.

Stecher on Way Here For Big Garden Bout

Joe Stecher, the "body scissor" hold wrestling sensation, left Chicago last night en route to this city, where he will meet Wladek Zyzsko on Friday night at Madison Square Garden. The Western farmer wired yesterday that he was in perfect physical condition and fit to wrestle for his life.

When he arrives Stecher will cast his camp at Bethner's gymnasium, where he will put on the finishing touches for the gigantic struggle. This is necessary, for Stecher doesn't intend to allow the least thing to prevent him from entering the ring at his best. The fact that a victory means a fortune and also the probability of meeting Earl Caddock will force Stecher to strive his mightiest to pin Zyzsko to the mat.

Fordham and Columbia "Fresh" in Meet To-day

Bernie Webers, track coach at Fordham University, announced yesterday two meets with the Columbia freshmen. This afternoon the Fordham Prep team will oppose the Blue and White youngsters, and on next Wednesday the Fordham team will face their class rivals from Columbia. It will be the first time in many years that the "prep" and "varsity" teams of Fordham have been entered in dual meets.

Coach Webers intends to enter both the "prep" and "varsity" teams in several meets, and Manager Mulvihill is completing a pretentious schedule.

Navy Yard Nines to Use Harvard Baseball Cage

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Feb. 26.—The Harvard Athletic Association to-day granted the Boston Navy Yard baseball team permission to use the university's baseball cage until milder weather sets in.

The college ball tossers therefore, during the next few weeks, will have an opportunity to mix it with Jack Barry and Mike McNally, of the Red Sox; Rabbit Maravilla and Rice, of the Braves, and other baseball notables.

Grenade Hurling Will Be Feature Of "Big Ten" Meets

CHICAGO, Feb. 26.—

Grenade hurling is to be included in the regular outdoor events of the "Big Ten" meets for the period of the war, it was announced to-day, the action having been taken at a meeting last night of the graduate committee of the Western Intercollegiate Conference Athletic Association. The outdoor meet will be held at Chicago on June 8 and the indoor games at Evanston on March 22-23.

The secretary of the committee was instructed to write coaches of the "Big Ten" colleges to ascertain their ideas and then draft a simple set of rules to govern grenade hurling.

Lobert on Job To Coach Army Baseball Team

WEST POINT, N. Y., Feb. 26.—Hans Lobert, erstwhile big leaguer and now coach of the Army baseball team, arrived here yesterday from Cuba to begin the season's work. Elmer Oliphant, captain of the nine, immediately issued a call for candidates, and more than two hundred men, the biggest squad ever turned out for baseball at West Point, responded. Indoor and cage work has commenced.

The first ten days will be given over to talks by Lobert explaining the system and what is expected from each man. The squad will get its first cut within a few days. Lobert takes up a task which looks anything but encouraging. Two gradations last year made a big hole in the Army's diamond forces, both in the active personnel and the reserves.

Oliphant, Murrill, Foster, Chadwick, Murray, Vial and Shrader, of last year's squad, remain, but the Army's inner and outer guard, as well as the pitcher's box, will be hard problems for the soldiers now called to soldier. The solution may be found in the big plebe class, which came here last June. The schedule of games will be announced within a few days.

Columbia Cubs Beaten By Five of Horace Mann

The Columbia freshmen were defeated by a score of 25 to 11 by the Horace Mann five in the Columbia gymnasium yesterday afternoon. The game was decidedly cleaner than the yearlings' last game with the Fordham freshmen, but the field goals of Eder and Pulley and the foul shooting of the former were too much for the college team.

Ullman played a consistent game for the losers, and Watson scored the highest number of points, with 10. The result was never in doubt, since the prep school five kept a safe distance in the lead.

Wellesley Girl Trying To Form Hockey Team

Although the masculine hockey players have been meeting with great success in New York this winter, there has been far less activity among the feminine wielders of the hockey stick. Mrs. Tom Howard, captain of the St. Nicholas "ice birds," has been trying to arrange a series of games with the women's team from Boston, and it now seems probable that another girlish team will enter into the competition and make it a three-team series.

Miss Emily Callaway, former captain of the Wellesley College hockey team, is now playing a star position with the Success company at the Harris Theatre, but she has not forgotten her hockey, and she wants to play a series of games for the benefit of the Red Cross. Miss Callaway now has one-seventh of a hockey team—herself—and is anxious to get six more girls to form the rest of the aggregation. The games will be played at the St. Nicholas rink some time next month if Miss Callaway finds her six sister hockey players.

Lajoie First Choice To Manage Hoosiers

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Where They Come From

JOHN E. WRAY, of St. Louis, contributes the following bit of wisdom: "The fiction of the city name, strung across the player's uniform, is exemplified in the case of the Yankees, and is shown in the cities they originally played for: Miller Huggins, manager, Cincinnati; St. Louis; Baker, Shawkey, St. Louis; Plank, Athletics, St. Louis; Pratt, St. Louis; Ruel, High, Detroit.

"New York would forget this diversity of origin if the players displayed a uniform spirit toward winning the flag."

Add puzzles: What has become of Mary Ann?

Now, if Bill Brennan and Frank Moran will keep to the right while making their exit they will have done all that any one could ask.

Ted-Kid Lewis and Soldier Bartfield opened their Eastern tour with a six-round bout at Philadelphia. The act is playing to S. R. O. this season at last.

Tiger Mermen Score Victory Over Columbia

Blue and White Get Some Consolation by Winning Water Polo Game

The Columbia University swimming team was submerged by Princeton University in an intercollegiate championship meet in the local college's pool last night. The score was 44 to 8. Princeton won five first places, while it tied Columbia for first place in the other event.

The Columbia boys got some consolation in defeating the Tiger water polo team by a score of 30 to 8. Kennedy and Hyde each shot three goals for Columbia, while Schaefer made all of the Princeton points.

Dead Heat in 220

Rogers, the young Columbia swimmer, finished in a dead heat with Twitchel, of Princeton, in the 220-yard event. The Blue and White representative led to the final turn, where he weakened, and Twitchel, coming along strongly, caught him going down the final lane. Both boys dashed their way to the finish line together.

Johnson was the outstanding star for Princeton, capturing first place in the 50 and 100 yard races, with Harris, a teammate, second in both instances. Johnson was in splendid form, covering the half-century in 26 seconds and the 100 yards in 1:00 4-5.

Columbia failed to enter any men in the dive, and its Tiger rivals took first and second places.

The Summary follows:

200-yard relay race—Won by Princeton (Twitchel, George Harris and Johnson); Columbia (Flores, Mable, Franklin and Dierich). Second, Time, 1:30. 100-yard swim—Won by Princeton (Johnson). Time, 26 sec. 50-yard swim—Won by Johnson, Princeton; Harris, Princeton, second, Rogers, Columbia, third, Time, 1:00 4-5. 220-yard swim—Dead heat between Rogers, Columbia, and Twitchel, Princeton, for first place; Mable, Columbia, third. Time, 2:20. Water polo contest—Columbia, 30; Princeton, 8. Goals: Columbia, Kennedy (3), Hyde (3); Princeton, Schaefer.

Miller Huggins Back To-day to Lead Yankees

Miller Huggins, the diminutive manager of the Yankees, has notified the local office that he will be back on the job to-day. Whether or not he has been able to part Western clubs from envied material, the head office will not venture an opinion. The head office has been somewhat mysterious all winter. So far the announcement of a single signed contract has been forthcoming, though it is generally believed that a number of Yankees have already signed.

According to the exchanges, Huggins has been seen in Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis since he quit this city at the time of the recent big league meetings. If he has made any deal with the Yankees, he has been unusually successful in keeping the secret.

Huggins should be reassured by the fine report brought back from Cuba by John McGraw as to the physical condition of Outfielder Armando Marsans. His first player, who broke his leg shortly after leaving New York last summer, walks with all the apparent freedom of his best days.

"I didn't see him play ball," said McGraw, "but he is in good shape. He has no ball in Cuba this winter. The Yankees have been out of the city since he left, and he has been hustling about as a limbo. He looked all right to me."

The Brooklyn club has received the signed contract of Richard K. Durning, a husky southpaw. He was purchased by McGraw at a price of \$10,000 from the Portland, Me., club and farmed out last season to Montreal and Portland, Me.

Manager John J. McGraw of the Giants is in receipt of a letter from Hank Gowdy, the first major league player to enlist after the United States entered the world war. Gowdy, "somebody," expressed the opinion that he would be engaged in real spring training before McGraw and his Giants bumped into the well known "K. C." streaks of the Arlington Hotel, Martin, Tex.

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Perritt's Delay In Contracting Worries McGraw

Giant Leader Also on Trail of Fletcher, Robertson, Schupp and Sallee

By W. J. Macbeth

Manager John J. McGraw, of the Giants yesterday succeeded in throwing out the opening wedge against the menacing phalanx of Giant "hold-outs" when he talked Left-fielder George Burns into signing a contract for 1918.

Burns, who has wintered in this city, called on his boss along about mid-afternoon. He immediately went into conference with McGraw and President Harry N. Hempstead of the New York Nationals. The wrangle consumed an hour or an hour and a quarter's time, after which J. J. McGraw came out beamingly and announced that the star gardener of the Polo Grounds had become eligible to play with the National League champion through the coming campaign. The terms of the contract entered into were not announced, of course.

After he had succeeded in winning over his hustling sun fielder McGraw announced that he would leave immediately on a protracted tour to round up the several other recalcitrant veterans who have demurred at the salary terms presented to them. The list includes Outfielder, David Robertson; Shortstop, Arthur Fletcher and Pitchers Ferdie Schupp, Pol Perritt and Slim Sallee. Jim Thorpe, the Oklahoma Indian, is also among the missing. But McGraw has too much use for his time to run away out to the reservation in pursuit of the bench warmer, who is crying for a raise equivalent to the pay of a regular.

"Burns has acted very fairly and squarely in all of his correspondence and arguments," said McGraw. "I was quite satisfied in my own mind that it would not take us long to get together once we had a chance to talk things over. I anticipate no greater trouble with any of the other veterans of the club."

Will Visit Others

"I intend to leave immediately," he continued, "to visit the other players of their various homes. I shall get out late to-night if I can make connections in the morning at the latest. In all probability I shall first go to see Dave Robertson. Then I'll jump west to consult Fletcher, Schupp and Sallee. Pol Perritt is the guy who has me worried. He lives down near Shreveport. And if I have to go out after him I'll be right back near Cuba again. It's the busy life for me, all right, standing. I plan to return to New York several days before the club sets out for spring training at Marlinton, Tex."

Over the Sport Trail

By Louis Lee Arms

Second Baseman Smith has been sent to Boston, and now New York is down to its last 564,769 Smiths.

Miller Huggins may think he has a big job before him. But suppose he had to manage Russia!

A poker player says, "That's good!" when he means it's rotten.

It may be observed that Champion Kieckhefer also has a three-cushion name.

On Politeness and Frankness

Governor TENER urges that there be more frankness and politeness in baseball. To advance the cause of frankness he would eliminate that depressive and vulgar pitching machination known as the spitball, while in the interests of politeness he would erase from the diamond the conventional methods of grabbing the other fellow's coat.

The good Governor has been through baseball and politics, and these humanitarian suggestions are, in consequence, doubly striking. We might believe that the good Governor's blood is getting a bit thin in the press of the rolling years, but the size of his chin is an argument against that. Besides, he succeeded in being re-elected president of the National League.

Frankness, so long as it is not too much so, and politeness are the hall marks of gentility, and it is too bad we care so little about them, especially in "Messrs. Rigler and Byron will officiate." I know, of course, that Messrs. is an abbreviation of Messieurs, which means gentlemen, and still I do not object. But after having had the umpires called gentlemen in our presence, it seems to me that we have done all that is right and fair by them, and that later they should not curb Johnny Evers's jaw.

It is my impression that it is not polite to stick a hotel night watchman with a stiletto, or hawl out supercilious night clerks. But how the old Detroit club used to draw when Ty Cobb was carving up a rubber heeled Cerberus now and then, or quitting the Tigers cold because a steam engine began its early morning vocal exercises under his window. When Merkle failed to touch second there was nothing polite about the scenes that followed, though frankness was done full justice. But how the public roared, not at all politely, and esteemed it a privilege to pay to roar.

I would be vastly disappointed if the low comedian didn't crack the guy with the top hat with an inflated bladder. I am glad to say he has never failed to do so yet, but if Governor Tener's new-fangled ideas get abroad, who knows what may become of the slapstick and the bladder? Yet they are impolite. Neither is there anything polite about that old musical burlesque stunt in which a tramp comedian enters, carrying a piano on his back, and is made to hold it there while the occupants of the apartment decide where they want it placed. But I have never seen anything funnier on the burlesque or review stage.

Frankly, I should admit that I almost dropped dead when I heard Fred Fulton knocked Frank Moran kicking in three rounds and, frankly, I think a lot of other underwood athletes did, too. In the interest of politeness and naturalness, I should not attempt to alibi Moran, yet I cannot refrain from saying that he must have lost much of his stamina in the last two years, and, frankly, I think a lot of other guys will say that, too.

So it goes. Frankness—a man often speaks his mind on wrestling, though Sula Hevopana was unquestionably the biggest sport card of the season—is a virtue, and politeness is inborn with the gentleman. But I should hate to depend for my living upon a team composed of perfect gentlemen, if across the street in opposition there was playing an aggregation with such well known "goat grabbers" as Johnny Evers, Otto Knebe, Mickey Doolan and a 1904 model John McGraw. I am not by nature luxurious in my tastes, but I have always believed a man should eat three times a day.

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